Executive Registry

76-3653

8 October 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
Legislative Counsel
Assistant to the DCI

SUBJECT: Declassification of Testimony Given in
Executive Session

     1. I am aware that committees of the Congress rarely request the
declassification of testimony given by Agency representatives in executive
session. In fact, it appears that the only committee which regularly asks
for such declassification is the Joint Economic Committee, which was
involved in this week's flap over the release of certain of our past
statements on [   ]   It is a normal procedure for this Committee to
request sanitization of testimony we provide to them on the state of the
Soviet and Chinese economies, but this testimony is normally given only
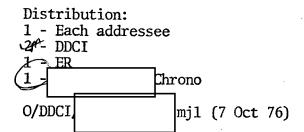on an annual basis.

     2. Even though the problem of declassifying executive session
testimony may arise infrequently, I would like to establish certain
procedures for addressing it in the future. We must avoid a repetition
of this week's incident. Therefore, I want DDI to continue to conduct
the original screening and sanitization of material, as it does now, to
ensure the protection of sources and methods information and other sensi-
tive data. DDI's findings will then be reviewed by the A/DCI, who will
advise me regarding the probable public impact of the testimony and what
other executive branch offices should be notified prior to its release.
I will be responsible for final release, in consultation with the DCI.

/s/ E. H. Knoche

E. H. Knoche
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

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O/DDCI

ROUTING SLIP

TO		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DDCI	✕			

SUSPENSE _____
Date

Remarks:

Per your request. I think
you have to say "in consultation
with the DCI" at the end because:
a - it may be his testimony;
b - community matters may be
involved.

ℓ

done

8/10/76
Date